

## STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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TOM LUNA STATE SUPERINTENDENT PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Idaho State Department of Education March 31, 2011 www.sde.idaho.gov Media contact:
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## SCHOOLS CAN APPLY NOW FOR FRESH FRUIT AND VEGETABLE GRANTS

BOISE –Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Luna announced today that Idaho elementary schools can apply now to implement the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP).

"The Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program is a great way to promote healthier eating habits among Idaho students while they are in school," Superintendent Luna said.

The goals of the program are to increase students' consumption of fresh fruits and vegetables, to expand the variety of fruits and vegetables that children experience, to positively impact their present and future health, and to create healthier school environments by providing healthier choices for students. FFVP schools are required to provide free fresh fruit and vegetable snacks throughout the school day.

In order to be eligible for the FFVP, schools must meet the following criteria:

- Be an elementary school (eligible students are pre-K through 6<sup>th</sup> grade)
- Operate the National School Lunch Program
- Have more than 50 percent of students eligible for free/reduced priced meals
- Submit a complete application

Elementary schools with the highest free and reduced price enrollment will be given priority during the selection process.

For more information on the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program requirements or for a copy of the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Grant Application, please visit <a href="www.sde.idaho.gov/site/cnp/">www.sde.idaho.gov/site/cnp/</a> or contact the Department's Child Nutrition Programs at (208) 332-6820.

FFVP applications must be mailed or e-mailed by **April 29, 2011**.

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